

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** children deserve to be safe and free from harm in their homes, schools, and communities; and

**WHEREAS,** child maltreatment, including neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse, is harm caused to a child by a parent, caretaker, or other person responsible for that child's safety; and

**WHEREAS,** tragically, children throughout South Carolina and the nation continue to fall victim to abuse and neglect; and

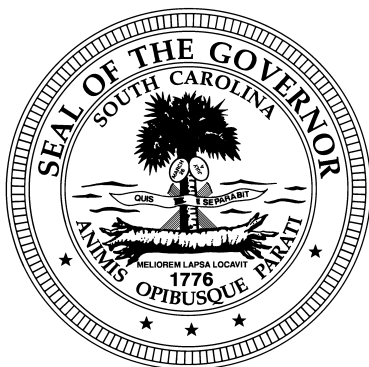
**WHEREAS,** the annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month is designed to educate our citizens about the devastating effects of child abuse while empowering and encouraging people to get involved; and

**WHEREAS,** this year's theme, "Safe Children and Healthy Families are a Shared Responsibility," reminds us of the importance of cooperative efforts between individuals, families, and communities to help ensure a life free from harm for our children.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2005 as

### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to prevent the abuse and neglect of our children.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mark Sanford".

**MARK SANFORD**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**